

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday December 16th 2001

Mayo Radio Experimenters Network

The Mayo Radio Experimenters Network has a new venue for club meetings, the upstairs room of Stensons pub in Ballyvary village. Meetings are held at 9 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 2nd January 2002.

The Mayo Rally will be held on Sunday March the 3rd 2002 in the Belmont Hotel, Knock. The IRTS AGM will be in the afternoon at the same venue, and the dinner dance will be on the Saturday evening. Details from Padraic EI9JA. E-mail rally@mayoren.net, or from the club web site at www.mayoren.net

Tipperary Amateur Radio Group

Tipperary Amateur Radio group wishes to draw your attention to the following changes in the groups activities. Since first Sunday in December the IRTS Radio News bulletin on 2 metres and 70 cm is broadcast at 8:30 p.m. local time. Transmission frequencies are 433.450 MHz and 145.450 MHz. Also the monthly meetings of TARG will be held on the first Thursday of every month.

Space News

A recent International Satellite Workshop sponsored by AMSAT-DL (Germany) explored future amateur radio satellite missions around Earth and raised the possibility of one to Mars. AMSAT-DL invited Phase 3D (now AO-40) engineers and supporters to attend the sessions held on November 23rd to the 25th in Marburg, Germany.

Phase 3D Project Leader Karl Meinzer, DJ4ZC, presented his ideas for an interplanetary mission to Mars in 2007 known as Phase 5A. He showed that, given Phase 3D's basic capabilities and structure such as propulsion, navigation, and deployable solar arrays, a similar spacecraft could leave a geostationary transfer-like Earth orbit and enter into an elliptical orbit around Mars. A P5A spacecraft could serve as a technology demonstrator and as a communication relay between experiments on the Martian surface and Earth, he said. Meinzer further speculated that

such as spacecraft also could become an experimental platform and carrier for a possible sub-payload to be deployed to Mars itself.

WAI Activity

Recent appeals on the radio news from WAI activists to get rare counties on air proved successful last Sunday when some of the counties needed for the WAI counties award came up on the WAI net.

Some stations have now got all 32 counties needed for the award (must be in 2001). Many are now short just 1 county. Laois, Mayo, Sligo, Carlow and Cavan are all needed, so if you are in one of those counties please come up on 7.068 MHz on Sundays after the Nuacht at 11.30.

Pat EI9HX will be on the Irish hour on 21.317 MHz from Mexico at 17.00 UTC signing XE1/EI9HX. All the WAI members wish him bon voyage.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group recently held it's annual Christmas Night Out in Rockett's Pub, Tramore, Co. Waterford. After a meal, the club got together in the bar for a drink and some craic where numerous spot prizes were raffled. The event was very well attended and an enjoyable night was had by all. The club wishes to thank John EI8JA and John EI2HW for organizing the event.

The next committee meeting of SEARG will take place on the second Wednesday of January in the New Year and details of the Annual General Meeting will be announced soon afterwards.

DX News

Ed, P5/4L4FN, continues to be active daily from North Korea, however, he has changed his 10 meter frequency to 28580kHz to get away from QRM of non-amateur stations. Reportedly, Ed has made his 1,000th QSO on November the 25th, hopefully they will all count towards DXCC and make 1,000 amateurs very happy. Watch for Ed's activity on 10 metres between 2200-2300 UTC (sometimes later on the weekends). He was also spotted on 20 meters (14195 kHz) around 1230z recently. QSL is via KK5DO.

Items for inclusion in the Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall EI7IS at QTHR or via e-mail to ei7is@qsl.net or cyberis@e-merge.ie. Items can also be sent to Mark over the phone at 087-6302026.

News can also be submitted via e-mail to news@irts.ie for automatic forwarding to both news services.

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